

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 12 EDUCATION

Program 055

SPI - Education Reform

Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2005-07 Expenditure Authority	38.9	83,503	124,305	207,808
Supplemental Changes				
Move Early Reading Grant Program to Early Learning Agency		(125)		(125)
Alternative for English Learners		100		100
Math Remediation		3,390		3,390
Assessment Funding Adjustments		5,074		5,074
Pension Plan 1 Unfunded Liabilities			32	32
Federal Funding Adjustment			24,454	24,454
Subtotal - Supplemental Changes		8,439	24,486	32,925
Total Proposed Budget	38.9	91,942	148,791	240,733
Difference		8,439	24,486	32,925
Percent Change	0.0%	10.1%	19.7%	15.8%

SUPPLEMENTAL CHANGES

Move Early Reading Grant Program to Early Learning Agency

The Early Reading Grant program created last year will be moved to the new Department of Early Learning.

Alternative for English Learners

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction will investigate how best to make sure language is not an obstacle to meeting Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) standards in math by (1) investigating the use of existing mathematics assessments in languages other than English as a possible means of measuring 10th grade essential academic learnings and standards, including examining the content and rigor of the assessments as well as their reliability and validity; (2) providing a cost estimate of translating the 10th grade mathematics WASL into other languages and scoring these assessments if they are implemented; and (3) developing recommendations for each of the above areas.

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Math Remediation

Although significant gains have been made in math achievement, tenth grade WASL scores indicate that students are still struggling to meet state standards in mathematics. Mathematics remediation will be strengthened through four initiatives. First, WASL knowledge and skill learning modules will be developed to assist students performing at 10th grade Level 1 in mathematics (\$110,000). Second, mathematics knowledge and skill learning modules will be developed to teach middle and high school students specific skills that have been identified as areas of difficulty for 10th grade students. Materials will be developed for classroom use and for tutorial learning activities (\$330,000). Third, web-based applications of the curriculum and materials produced for the learning modules will be developed. The products will be designed as on-line courses for students needing Level 1 instruction; learning modules accessible to classroom teachers for incorporation into classroom instruction; tutorials that can be used as WASL assessment skill refreshers as well as tutor-guided and parent-guided learning modules; and on-line practice WASLs with supporting item scoring information and student response examples (\$600,000). Fourth, a new 10th grade mathematics assessment tool will be developed that presents the mathematics essential learnings in segments for assessment. The new tool will be comparable in content and rigor to the 10th grade mathematics WASL when all segments are considered together and will be a valid and reliable assessment (\$2,350,000).

Assessment Funding Adjustments

The 2005 Legislature enacted a two-year assessment budget expecting the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to obtain favorable contract prices, federal funding, or a combination of the two to cover the cost of returning the 10th grade assessment results to students by June 10th of each year and to develop and administer the state-required science WASL. OSPI was unable, however, to secure federal funding or fully eliminate contractor pricing expectations for these items.

Federal Funding Adjustment

The Superintendent of Public Instruction has submitted revised estimates of federal grants and allocations for education programs, including Education Reform programs for assessments, professional development, and school improvement. (General Fund-Federal)